In the Matter of

KENNETH C. WESTFIELD, M.D.

Holder of License No. 13740
For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine
In the State of Arizona

Case No. MD-11-1726A

ORDER FOR LETTER OF REPRIMAND AND CONSENT TO THE SAME

Kenneth C. Westfield, M.D. ("Respondent") elects to permanently waive any right to a hearing and appeal with respect to this Order for Letter of Reprimand; admits the jurisdiction of the Arizona Medical Board ("Board"); and consents to the entry of this Order by the Board.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for the regulation and control of the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- Respondent is the holder of license number 13740 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 3. The Board Initiated case number MD-11-1726A after receiving notification that the Nevada Medical Board issued Respondent a public reprimand for feilure to properly perform cataract surgery and lens implantation resulting in the loss of vision in the right eye.
- 4. On May 24, 2007, Respondent performed cataract extraction and lens implantation for AN, a 64 year-old female patient who complained of constant blurry vision for the past six months. During the procedure, a second lens was implanted; however, there is no mention of what occurred during the surgery in the patient's chart such that the patient would require implantation of the second lens. The following day, AN returned and was seen by an optometrist who noted that the eye pressure was high with unspecified

pain and loss of vision in her right eye. She received medications and the pressure dropped. Lens fragments and the first new lens were eventually identified in the posterior chamber of the right eye. AN subsequently saw a retina specialist, who found large retained lens fragments as well as the first dislocated IOL (intraocular lens) in the right eye. On June 8, 2007, AN underwent vitrectomy, lensectomy, and removal of the posterior chamber intraocular lens. AN never regained sight in her right eye.

cells in the anterior chamber. Post-procedure, AN was seen and continued to complain of

5. On February 22, 2011, the Nevada Board filed a formal complaint against Respondent for allegations involving his care and treatment of patient AN. The Nevada Board found that Respondent failed to document intraoperative complications, failed to communicate the fact of the intraoperative complications to AN and omissions relating to the diagnosis, treatment and care of AN. On September 11, 2011, Respondent entered into a Consent Agreement for disciplinary action including a public reprimand and a \$10,000 fine. Pursuant to the Consent Agreement, Respondent was required to obtain 10 hours of CME to include 6 hours in intraocular lens transplants and 4 hours in any combination of medical ethics or recordkeeping.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent.
- 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(o) ("[a]ction that is taken against a doctor of medicine by another licensing or regulatory jurisdiction due to that doctor's mental or physical inability to engage safely in the practice of medicine, the doctor's medical incompetence or for unprofessional conduct as defined by that jurisdiction and that corresponds directly or indirectly to an act of unprofessional conduct prescribed by this

paragraph. The action taken may include refusing, denying, revoking or suspending a license by that jurisdiction or a surrendering of a license to that jurisdiction, otherwise limiting, restricting or monitoring a licensee by that jurisdiction or placing a licensee on probation by that jurisdiction.")

## ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT Respondent is issued a Letter of Reprimand.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of June\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2012

ARIZONA MEDIÇAL BOARD

Isa S. Wynn

**Executive Director** 

## CONSENT TO ENTRY OF ORDER

- 1. Respondent has read and understands this Consent Agreement and the stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order ("Order"). Respondent acknowledges he has the right to consult with legal counsel regarding this matter.
- Respondent acknowledges and agrees that this Order is entered into freely and voluntarily and that no promise was made or coercion used to induce such entry.
- 3. By consenting to this Order, Respondent voluntarily relinquishes any rights to a hearing or judicial review in state or federal court on the matters alleged, or to challenge this Order in its entirety as issued by the Board, and waives any other cause of action related thereto or arising from said Order.
- 4. The Order is not effective until approved by the Board and signed by its Executive Director.

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Kenneth C. Westfield, M.D.

- 5. All admissions made by Respondent are solely for final disposition of this matter and any subsequent related administrative proceedings or civil litigation involving the Board and Respondent. Therefore, said admissions by Respondent are not intended or made for any other use, such as in the context of another state or federal government regulatory agency proceeding, civil or criminal court proceeding, in the State of Arizona or any other state or federal court.
- 6. Upon signing this agreement, and returning this document (or a copy thereof) to the Board's Executive Director, Respondent may not revoke the consent to the entry of the Order. Respondent may not make any modifications to the document. Any modifications to this original document are ineffective and void unless mutually approved by the partles.
- This Order is a public record that will be publicly disseminated as a formal . 7. disciplinary action of the Board and will be reported to the National Practitioner's Data Bank and on the Board's web site as a disciplinary action.
- If any part of the Order is later declared void or otherwise unenforceable, the 8. remainder of the Order in its entirety shall remain in force and effect.
- If the Board does not adopt this Order, Respondent will not assert as a 9. defense that the Board's consideration of the Order constitutes bias, prejudice, prejudgment or other similar defense.
- Any violation of this Order constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result 10. in disciplinary action. A.R.S. § § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter") and 32-1451.

DATED: 3/MAY 2012

1	EXECUTED COPY of the foregoing mailed this day of, 2012 to:
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3	Kenneth C Westfield, M.D. Address of Record
4	ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this day of, 2012 with:
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6	Arizona Medical Board
7	9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258
8	Mary Boles
9	Arizona Medica) Board Staff
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